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English 8  
October 2017

## Titles, Lead, and Thesis: THEMATIC CONNECTION OVERLOAD

Here is an example of how you can develop theme through titles, lead and bridge sentences, and a thesis.

**Consider a title based on the title “Hidden in America.”**

Title example:

Hiding Under the Covers

**Come up with a lead that explains the title and will relate to your essay:**

Lead example:

Sometimes parents may not want to face the truth about poverty, so they hide under the covers of their pride and fear. By being too proud or too fearful, parents may expose their children to dangerous situations involving their health and education.

**Come up with a bridge sentence that connects to BOTH TEXTS and relates to this thematic title and lead:**

Bridge example:

In the movie “Hidden in America” directed by Martin Bell and the novel *Make Lemonade* by Virginia Euwer Wolff, the main characters Bill and Jolly use pride as an excuse to addressing their situations instead of taking the help that their family needs.

**Use this theme to construct a thesis:**

Thesis example:

Both Bill and Jolly expose their children to serious physical and emotional dangers, but they put aside their insecurities and accept help in different ways.

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Now, you practice and try.

Thematic Title: Make Lemonade from Lemons

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Thematic Lead:

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Bridge Sentences that connect the lead to both texts:

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Connect to a thesis statement about similarities and differences by re-connecting to the lead:

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Remember that your thesis statements should not include textual examples, but it should be fairly specific and relate to your ideas about how the characters are similar and different.